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ART NEWS FROM THE OLD WORLD

Paris courts have again demonstrated their sympathy with arts. An American, Gaus, commissioned Benzinger to paint his wife's portrait. The price was fixed at five thousand francs, and the work was duly executed. Gaus, however, refused to accept the portrait on the ground that the likeness was not good. The result was an action at law, and the court ordered the well-known artists, Jules Lefebre and Gabriel Ferrier, to give expert opinion. They stated the work had been carried out in a conscientious manner. As to resemblance, they said a person painted by ten different artists will be represented in ten different ways. Judgment was given for the artist.

* The proposed exhibition at the Louvre of the work of "Primitive" painters will be opened in April next, under the patronage of the state and the presidency of M. Aynard of the Institute, with the assistance of M. Bouchot. The exhibition will be confined to works produced



DRIVEWAY IN PENN VALLEY PARK
Kansas City Park System

from the reign of Philippe VI. to that of Henry III.—that is to say, from 1350 to 1584. It will comprise not only pictures, but also manuscripts, enamels, glass, and tapestries, and will include objects which at one time formed part of the collections of the dukes of Burgundy, the princes of the house of Valois, the Duchesse de Berry, etc.

* The Palace of Peace at The Hague will owe three of its most beautiful ceilings to the brush of the great Liege painter, Gerard de Lairesse, three works by this artist having been bought for the purpose at the sale of Veilcay-Frederick Muller & Co., at Amsterdam.

* Announcement is made of the purchase by the Louvre from the firm of Eugene Glaenzer & Co., of a notable example of El Greco, a double portrait canvas for a large price. The Louvre has been negotiating for the purchase of this picture, which is considered one of the best and most representative examples of the famous painter, for

A LAWN IN THE PASEO
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some time. The canvas measures some four by two feet, and is in an excellent state of preservation. The acquisition is deemed a treasure.

* A convention of impressionists from all the leading cities of Germany was held at Weimar recently, and resulted in a plan to establish a German Artists' League. The league's plan of campaign for forcing representation at the St. Louis Exposition has not been divulged, but it is expected that a formal demand will soon be made on Herr Lewald, the Imperial German Commissioner, to force the old association to concede to the new organization a reasonable portion of the space allotted to Germany at St. Louis.

* The annual election of officers of the American Art Association in Paris was held recently. The following officers were elected: Board of governors, John K. Gowdy, Charles F. Greene, W. S. Dalliba, James H. Hyde, B. J. Shoninger, Sidney B. Veit, John Monroe, M. P. Peixotto, Francis E. Kimble, H. W. Faulkner, W. C. Brazington, H. M. Butler, Abbott Graves, J. Van Winkle, L. Mielsiner, F. C. Frieseke, and W. R. Macpherson; art committee: Painters, F. C.



Friesake, chairman; L. Walden, Alexander Harrison, Abbott Graves, Otto Gaensslen; sculptors, Paul Bartlett, Hans Schuler; architects, T. M. Carson and T. Hornung.

* The Belgian Academy has awarded its prizes for applied art. M. R. Wasseige and M. Van Peborough, architects respectively at Ixelles and Antwerp, divided the prize for a projected monument to the Congo.

* The Versailles Museum has acquired the historical picture of Louis David, entitled "Le Mort de Marat." The picture was the spontaneous tribute on the part of David to the memory of his friend Marat, and was begun as soon as the fact of the assassination was announced to the convention by Guiraud. When finished the picture was hung, on November 14, 1793, in the Salle des Séances of the convention as a pendant to David's picture of the assassination of Michael Pepelletier, which was hung on March 29 of the same year. Both pictures were removed in February, 1796. It is a mystery as to their whereabouts during the last century.

* The great French sculptor Rodin has been elected president of the International Society of Sculptors, Painters, and Gravers, to fill the vacancy made by Whistler's death.

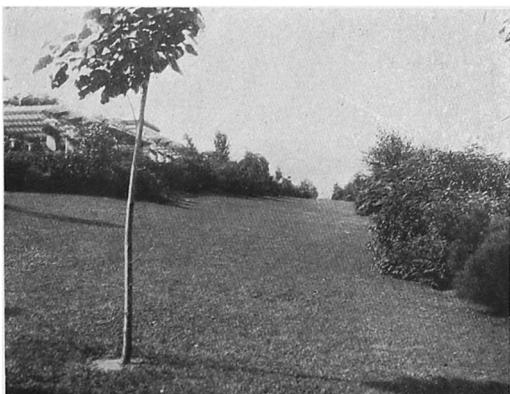
* Baron Arthur De Rothschild, who died at Monte Carlo, December 1, bequeathed his valuable collection of paintings to the Louvre. The collection contains four pictures by Greuze and two Teniers, and also comprises masterpieces by Ruysdael, Backhuysen, Wouwermann, and Hobbema. To the Musée de Cluny, Baron Rothschild bequeathed his famous collection of ancient rings.

* The Louvre, Paris, has acquired an important art legacy, valued at 200,000 francs, from M. Bossy, the well-known collector. Some few of the articles bequeathed were seen at the Petit Palais in 1900, and were at that time widely noticed. A large statue of the Virgin and Child and another one of the Virgin were among them—both from the Abbey of Hautecombe. There are four other articles—a carved wood statuette of St. Etienne, a statuette of the Virgin seated, a picture, "De l'École de Perouse," and a fifteenth-century piece of tapestry representing "L'Altiero Vasti."

* An exhibition was opened recently at the Museum of Industrial Art, Berlin, of the objects presented to Harvard's Germanic Museum as supplemental to Emperor William's gift. The collection is the result of the efforts of Professor Kuno Francke, of Harvard University, in interesting German artists, scientists, and capitalists in the Germanic Museum as a means of displaying the Fatherland's art treasures in the United States and strengthening the ties between the two countries. The money required was quietly collected, and the Royal Museum of Industrial Art was intrusted to carry out the wishes of the givers. It was decided to select the goldsmiths' work from the twelfth to the seventeenth centuries for illustration, and replicas

of fifty-five cups of various designs and basins and dishes were made by an electroplating process to compose the gift. The articles chiefly are from the work of Nuremberg and Augsburg goldsmiths of the period when this art was at its maturity. Many of these objects now are in possession of princely houses, municipalities, and museums. Emperor William has permitted the reproduction of several of the finest pieces in his collection, including the so-called Emperor's Cup of the sixteenth century, by Wenzel Jamitzer of Nuremberg. The Kings of Wurtemberg and Saxony also have permitted copies to be made of some of their treasures. The largest group consists of sixteen pieces from

the Town Hall of Luenenburg, now in possession of the Berlin Museum. Among the famous pieces are the so-called Landschadenbund Cup, from the Museum of Graz; the Luther Cup, presented to the reformer upon his marriage, by the Wittenberg Town Council; and the Corvinus Cup, which King Corvinus of Hungary presented to the



A STRETCH OF THE PASEO
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Vienna Council in 1462. The reproductions are so successful that an expert scarcely can detect the difference from the originals.

* Some time ago a group of twenty artists of Berlin forwarded to the proper minister a writing setting forth that the Great Berlin Exhibition of Art was in need of reform, and suggesting how the exhibition might be improved. It was returned to them with the statement that the emperor did not see his way to changing the constitution, and having these exhibitions differently managed. Upon this a circular, signed by forty-four artists, was sent to the painters and sculptors calling for a meeting to discuss the matter. About two hundred met and appointed a committee to assist the original reformers in working out a constitution embodying the reforms desired. They are to report when the official statement on the last exhibition shall be published to the minister of cults.

* The government of Italy is greatly concerned over the clandestine exportation of statuary and antiquities, especially to England and the

United States. Although there is a law inflicting severe penalties on those who attempt to dispose of antique objects in foreign countries, the trade in these articles continues brisk.

* The craze for souvenir postal-cards is not as violent in England and America as it is on the European Continent, but those afflicted with it in this country are increasing in number while in England the fad has reached a point which makes possible an exhibition entitled "Art in Picture Post-cards," which was recently opened at the Grafton Galleries, London. Some names of artists well known even on this side of the Atlantic were to be found in the list of contributors, the artists represented including Phil May, E. T. Reed, Charles Keene, Mortimer Menpes, "Kyd" and E. M. Croxton. That there are innumerable possibilities in post-card decoration is shown by some of the examples which were made in France. In this country most of the souvenir cards bear photographic prints, noteworthy exceptions being those designed by the members of the Plastic Club of Philadelphia.

* Aix-la-Chapelle, which is now called Aache, is to have a new museum for the site of which the ministry of Cults has paid forty thousand dollars. It will house the collection of paintings left to the technical high school of Aachen by the will of the late Mr. Reiff, a painter.

* The tower of San Giorgio dei Greci, which is such a conspicuous object in the views of Venice about the lagoons toward the Adriatic, is said to be at least three feet out of plumb. There is talk of taking it down and rebuilding it, although Italy can show a great many belfries which have stood for centuries with a greater slant than three feet. But since the fall of the Grand Campanile the nerves of the Venetians are on edge, and their buildings are being measured and plumb-lined with the greatest care.

* The Royal Academy has lost one of its oldest members in the person of J. C. Horsley, who died in the eighty-seventh year of his age, at London, on October 19. Mr. Horsley mostly chose for his subjects familiar domestic themes, the "story-telling" pictures so dear to the ordinary Englishman, and which is the despair of the discriminating art critic. Of late years his brush has been idle, but he came before the public a year or so ago as the avowed enemy of "the altogether," his opposition to the nude winning him the sobriquet of "Clothes Horsley."

* The recent deaths of two well-known Scottish artists were more than ordinarily tragic. J. Thorburn Ross was found in a dying condition at the bottom of his studio stair in Edinburgh; while the body of T. B. Blacklock was thrown up on the beach at Greenock. Mr. Ross had been a regular exhibitor at the Royal Scottish Academy since 1879, and his pictures were also seen at the Royal Academy and the Paris Salon. Mr. Blacklock had frequently exhibited at the Royal Academy.

* According to the views of several prominent British artists the best monuments in England are Samuel Joseph's statue of Wilberforce in Westminster Abbey, Foley's statue of Barry, Thorneycroft's statue of Gordon in Trafalgar Square, Gilbert's Shaftesbury monument in Piccadilly Circus, Brock's statue of Robert Raikes on the Thames embankment, Bacon's monument to Chatham in the Guildhall, Gilbert's statue of Queen Victoria at Winchester, and the unfinished



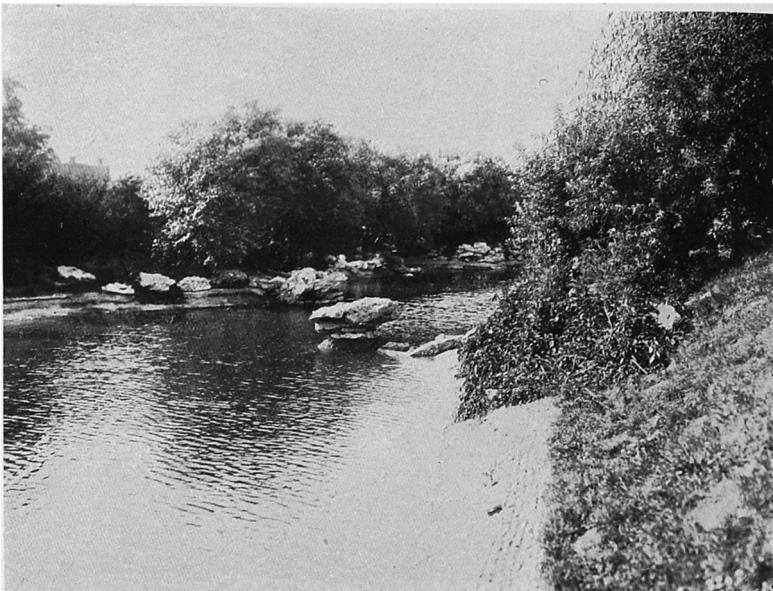
THE CLIFF DRIVE—NORTH TERRACE PARK
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Wellington monument by Alfred Stevens in St. Paul's Cathedral. An estimate on such competent authority is of great value to the public.

* A monument to Eugene Fromentin is to be erected at La Rochelle, and M. Ferdinand Brunetiere has recently been giving a series of conferences in Paris to aid in raising the two thousand dollars necessary to complete the monument fund. In his appreciation of Fromentin as an art critic, quite apart from his achievements as a painter, Mr. Brunetiere places himself side by side with all the artist-critics, who unanimously maintain that Fromentin was the most discriminating critic and the most eloquent writer on art in modern times. His "Les Maitres d'Autrefois" is held by them in higher esteem than any other book about painters and the painters' point of view.

* The Duchess of Argyll, better known as the Princess Louise, and a charming daughter of the late Queen Victoria, is at this time the most successful of royal artists. Her latest commission is to design an heroic bronze statue in memory of the colonial troops who gave up their lives in South Africa in the Boer war. The statue is to have a place in Westminster Abbey, among the other treasures of the nation.

* That celebrated historic relic of the Stone Age in England, Stone-



THE LAKE IN THE PASEO
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henge, about which so many delightful theories and legends have clustered, has been surrounded by a fence by Sir Edward Antrobus, the owner of the downs on which it stands, and an admission fee is charged.

* Ernesto Blöndi, one of the best known Italian sculptors, and the creator of the Saturnalia so much appreciated at the Paris Exhibition, has been definitely accepted to model the monument to be erected, by international subscription, to the memory of Pope Leo XIII., on top of Senna-Visa, the highest mountain of the Lepini chain. The figure will represent Pope Leo in bronze, standing and blessing the land and sea. It will have an enormous pedestal, with bas-reliefs in the style of those of Babylon.